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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following paragraph as indicated.

manifold (115) at one end of the fuel cell stack assembly (100). The result may be a fuel manifold coupled to a first end of the assembly, whereby the fuel cell stacks cantilever from the manifold. Such a configuration minimizes the seal length between dissimilar materials such as the metallic materials of the manifold (115) and the ceramic materials of the fuel cell stacks (105, 110). This minimization of the seal length reduces the stresses induced into the present system due to different coefficients of thermal expansion during the temperature cycling that accompanies fuel cell operation. The single connection point allows the fuel cell stack assembly (110) to expand or contract unconstrained as a cantilever structure.